

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

November 5, 2013

Making a foster child a permanent member of your family requires a special kind of person; particularly if the child is older, has experienced the trauma of abuse or neglect, or has emotional or behavioral challenges. That person is selfless, patient, nurturing, loving and provides a child with a sense of belonging and permanency. That person is an adoptive parent.

There are nearly 500 children in Los Angeles County's foster care system that are in need of adoptive families. It is important to bring awareness to that need and recruit loving, prospective adoptive families. The Adoption and Permanency Resources Division welcomes and needs individuals and families, regardless of age, sex, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital or domestic partnership status, physical characteristics, national origin, medical status or disability status, to help fulfill one of its critical missions in finding permanent and loving homes for children that need adoptive families.

Last year, over 1,500 adoptions were finalized in Los Angeles County lending security and permanency to each one of those children. Next year, we hope to do more and in particular find adoptive homes for siblings, teens, and children with medical needs.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

- (1) Declare November 2013 Adoption Awareness Month;
- (2) Encourage families and others in the community to consider the benefits and rewards of adopting a waiting child by calling (888) 811-1121 or visit www.ShareYourHeartLA.org ; and
- (3) Instruct the Auditor-Controller to print, "November is Adoption Awareness Month. Call 888-811-1121 to become a foster or adoptive parent" on all County warrants and for the Department of Human Resources to include the same message on the electronic paystub viewer on e-CAPS.

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

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RIDLEY-THOMAS _____